Appendix C: Additional Sources of Information

Bay Area Consumers Checkbook

52 Sylvan Way Oakland, CA 94610 (510) 763-7979 www.checkbook.org Rates the quality and prices of local service firms ranging from auto repair shop to hospitals

California Department of Managed Healthcare

980 9th Street Suite 500 Sacramento, CA 95814 1-888-HMO-2219 www.dmhc.ca.gov Licenses HMOs that meet specific standards

California Medical Review, Inc.

1 Sansome Street, Suite 600 San Francisco, CA 94104-4448 (415) 677-2000 www.lumetra.com Reviews quality for Medicare programs

California Public Employees Retirement System

400 P Street Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 326-3000 www.calpers.ca.gov Publishes a report card on health plans

Office of the Patient Advocate

1-866-HMO-8900 TTY 1-866-499-0858 (1) 980 9th Street, Suite 500 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 324-6407 (2) 320 W 4th Street, Suite 880 Los Angeles, CA 90013-2347 (213) 897-0579 http://www.opa.ca.gov Independent office in state government charged with informing and educating consumers about their rights and responsibilities as HMO enrollees

Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations

One Renaissance Boulevard Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181 (630) 792-5862 www.icaho.org Accredits hospitals that meet specific standards

National Committee on Quality Assurance

1350 New York Avenue, NW Suite 700 Washington, DC 20005 (202) 628-5788 www.ncqa.org

Accredits health plans that meet specific standards

Pacific Business Group on Health

221 Main Street, Suite 1500 San Francisco, CA 94105 (415) 281-8660 www.pbgh.org

Works to improve the quality of healthcare for its 2.5 million represented employees, dependents, and retirees

U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality

540 Gaither Rockville, M.D. 20850 (301) 594-1364 www.ahrq.gov The federal government's lead agency supporting research to improve quality of healthcare

Internet links to further information about community-acquired pneumonia:

www.lungusa.org/diseases/lungpneumoni.html www.mayoclinic.org www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/pneumonia.htm